News Release

<u>For Immediate Release</u>:

Tuesday, March 16, 2004

San Jose City Leaders Outraged by Placement of Convicted Sex Offender Cary Verse

San José — San José Vice Mayor Pat Dando, Councilmember Forrest Williams, and Councilmember Terry Gregory expressed outrage this afternoon, upon learning that the California Department of Mental Health placed convicted sex offender Cary Verse in the 4100 block of Monterey Road in south San José last night.

"San José was never notified that Verse was being placed in our city," remarked Dando. "We cannot stand by and let San José become a dumping ground for dangerous criminals"

Verse, a 33 year-old sexual predator with multiple convictions who was released from Atascadero State Hospital last month has lived in various Bay Area cities until he was moved late last night to south San José after Oakland citizens staged a protest outside his residence, which was across from an elementary school.

"Verse's history shows he is an extremely dangerous sex offender," said Williams who represents the Council District where Verse was placed. "There is absolutely no assurance he will not strike again and he poses a high risk to our community."

The San José neighborhood where Verse was placed is in close proximity to several schools and a neighborhood park. Dando, Williams, and Gregory vow to work with the community, their colleagues on the City Council, the San José Police Department, and state officials to ensure that Verse is moved from San José immediately.

A joint news conference with the Councilmembers, Mayor Ron Gonzales, and Police Chief Rob Davis is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. tomorrow in front of San José City Hall, 801 North First Street, to discuss the steps the City of San José will take to address this issue.

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